

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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Serial# NOT YET ASSIGNED

From the:
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

To: Ella Cheong Spruson & Ferguson P.O Box 1531 Robinson Road Post Office 903031 Singapore			Date of mailing <i>(day/month/year)</i> 20 DEC 2004		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 10104SG224			FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below		
International application No. PCT/SG2004/000317		International filing date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 29 September 2004		Priority date <i>(day/month/year)</i> 3 October 2003	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ C01B 3/04, 3/08, 6/04, 6/06, 21/00, 21/06					
Applicant NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE et al					

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the opinion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaustalia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer B CROUCH Telephone No. (02) 6283 2060
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WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/SG2004/000317

Box No. I **Basis of the opinion**

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-24	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-24	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-24	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations:

NOVELTY (N) Claims 1-24

- (a) WO 2003/050036 A1 (NANOMIX INC) 19 June 2003
- (b) WO 2003/018468 A1 (TECHNOLOGICAL RESOURCES PTY LTD) 6 March 2003
- (c) US 2003/0129126 A1 (PING CHEN ET AL) 10 July 2003
- (d) US 6814782 B2 (BORISLAV BOGDANOVIC ET AL) 9 November 2004

None of the citations (a) – (d) individually or combinations thereof disclose the matter as defined in claims 1-24 of the present invention.

INVENTIVE STEP (IS) Claims 1-24

As above.

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

1. Claim 24 lacks clarity.

Claim 24 defines 'Use of a mutli-metal-nitrogen compound ...'

Perhaps if it defined 'Use of a multi' It may clarify this issue.